

Athletic Code of Conduct

Welcome to Adult & Youth Sports Programs sponsored by City of Covington Parks & Recreation. These programs are offered for your enjoyment therefore, your cooperation and sportsmanship are essential to the overall success of the program. All players, coaches, managers, and spectators are expected to act in an acceptable manner during the entire program. Covington Parks & Recreation reserves the right to take any disciplinary action it deems appropriate against players, coaches, managers and spectators not acting in an acceptable manner, including, but not limited to suspension from games, expulsion from the park and participation in any future programs. The benefit a participant derives from this program depends very much on adherence to accepted standards of behavior.

These definitions provide information and direction to participants regarding standards of behavior, as well as consequences of participant/team misconduct.

Each Participant is expected to do the following:

- ❖ Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not
- ❖ Behave in a responsible manner, always exercising self-discipline
- ❖ Respect the rights and privileges of other participants and staff
- ❖ Respect City of Covington property and the property of others
- ❖ Cooperate with and assist the staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline
- ❖ Respect the game officials even when you may not agree with their calls
- ❖ Respect Parks Department staff and facility rules and regulations being enforced
- ❖ Be mindful of conduct; make sure that no action occurs that could reflect adversely on your sponsor or team

Unacceptable behaviors include the following:

- ❖ Failure to conform to City of Covington rules, regulations, and ordinances
- ❖ Being involved in an instance of any form of insubordination
- ❖ Use of profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures
- ❖ Defacing and/or damaging City property or the property of others
- ❖ Engaging in inappropriate physical or verbal contact
- ❖ Running, pushing, shoving, littering, or throwing objects (which are not part of the supervised activity)
- ❖ Involvement with drugs, alcohol, or weapons
- ❖ Inappropriate action of even one player can reflect upon your entire team

Athletic Code of Conduct applies to all players, coaches, managers, and spectators. The Code of Conduct applies to participants as individuals or as a team; and the penalties can be applied on an individual or an entire team. This Code becomes effective as soon as the participants arrive at the facility of play and remains in effect until the participants leave the facility.

Athletic Code of Conduct

LEVEL 1

Minimum Penalty: Verbal warning, official may remove individual from game.

Maximum Penalty: Ejection from current game, plus 1 game suspension and probation for rest of season.

Team Penalty: If 2 or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game will be forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above.

No Participant Shall:

- ❖ Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official's decision by throwing playing equipment or any other forceful action.
 - ❖ Discuss with an official, in any manner, the decision reached by an official except the manager, coach or captain.
 - ❖ Be involved with any trash talking on or off the field/court.
 - ❖ Refuse to abide by official's decisions.
 - ❖ Be guilty of smoking or drinking alcohol during league play.
 - ❖ Discuss publically with spectator in a derogatory manner any play, decision, or personal opinion of other individuals.
 - ❖ Mingle with or fraternize with spectators during the course of the game in a way that negatively affects the game in any way.
 - ❖ Permit anyone to remain in the dugout or on the player's bench, unless an active team member.
 - ❖ Be guilty of fake tags and/or unintentional thrown bats.
 - ❖ Leave behind excessive trash on or off the playing field.
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LEVEL 2

Minimum Penalty: Ejection from current game, plus 1 game suspension and probation for remainder of season.

Maximum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) and probation for 1 year. Assault charges filed if necessary.

Team Penalty: If 2 or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game will be forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above.

No Participant Shall:

- ❖ Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any individual on or off the field/court.
 - ❖ Use profane, obscene or vulgar language/behavior, in any manner, at any time, on or off the field.
 - ❖ Unnecessary rough tactics in the play of game.
 - ❖ Be guilty of smoking or drinking alcohol during league play.
 - ❖ Play under another individuals name; falsify name, or signature on official roster.
 - ❖ Be guilty of fake tags and/or unintentional thrown bats.
 - ❖ Leave behind excessive trash on or off the playing field.
 - ❖ Violate Level 1 of Code of Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.
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Level 3

Minimum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) and probation for 1 year. Assault charges filed if necessary.

Maximum Penalty: Suspension from all Covington Parks activities for 1 year (team and/or individual), probation for 2 additional years and/or charges filed.

Team Penalty: If 2 or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game will be forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above.

No Participant Shall:

- ❖ Appear on the field/court, at any time, in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of any other type of drug which will infringe upon the individual's safety or the safety of others. (Subject to fine from the City)
 - ❖ Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any official or city staff on or off the playing field/court.
 - ❖ Use excessive profane, obscene or vulgar language/behavior, in any manner, at any time, on or off the field/court.
 - ❖ Directly or indirectly threaten another individual including officials and/or city staff. Charges may be filed.
 - ❖ Attempt to damage, destroy or steal City property and/or property of others.
 - ❖ Violate Level 2 Code of Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.
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Level 4

Minimum Penalty: Suspension from all Covington Parks activities for 1 year (team and/or individual), probation for 2 additional years and/or charges filed.

Maximum Penalty: Life suspension from all Covington Parks activities and charges will be filed.

Team Penalty: If 2 or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game will be forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above.

No Participant Shall:

- ❖ Lay a hand upon, shove, strike, or threaten to strike an official or individual. Charges will be filed.
 - ❖ Be guilty of a physical attack upon any individual, official, or city staff on or off the playing field/court. Charges will be filed.
 - ❖ Be guilty of damaging, destroying, or stealing city property.
 - ❖ Be guilty of using altered equipment, i.e. softball bats.
 - ❖ Be guilty of throwing equipment at any official or individual with intent to harm or intimidate. Charges will be filed.
 - ❖ Be guilty of possessing a weapon on or off the playfield/court.
 - ❖ Gamble upon any program/game with other spectators, players, managers, coaches, or opponents.
 - ❖ Violate Level 3 Code of Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.
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Athletic Code of Conduct

Suspended Participant:

If a player is ejected during the game the suspension is for the remainder of the current game and the teams next scheduled game.

Suspended participants must remove themselves immediately (2 minute clause) from the confines of the park or gym, or the area as designated by the site supervisor.

If the suspended participant does not remove themselves immediately, their teammates or coaches are responsible for their removal or a forfeit will be called.

2 Minute Clause:

Two minutes shall be allowed for the suspended participant(s) to remove themselves from the designated playing area. If this time limit is not met then the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

Suspended participant is not allowed to attend any game for that period of when he/she is suspended. The participant must remain off the premises for that period or a forfeit will be called.

Participant suspended from one Covington league team will result in a suspension for all other City of Covington Leagues, i.e. if you play on more than one team. You will be suspended from all other teams within the City.

Managers/Team Responsibility:

Managers will be responsible to see that all their players and spectators know and abide by the rules/regulations and Athletic Code of Conduct, before, during, and after games.

Managers shall be the official representative of the team and spectators unless he/she designates one of the players as the team captain prior to the game. Only the manager and/or designated team captain may discuss a call or decision made by the official(s).

Team penalties may be imposed if multiple individuals, from the same team, violate this code of conduct. Remember... games can be forfeited for Level 1-4 code violations.

Managers/Coaches may also have penalties imposed on them for their team's/player's actions.

Special Note:

Any and all situations not specifically covered in the Athletic Code of Conduct shall be acted upon by the game official(s), site supervisor(s), league supervisor, or other City Staff. All such actions shall be the basis for similar situations such as rulings shall be final and become part of, Athletic Code of Conduct.

Any participant, who incurs an indebtedness to the City of Covington (returned checks, failure to pay league fees, failure to return City equipment, reimbursement of damage, or other forms where money is owed to the City) and does not correct this matter within a prescribed time period will be suspended from all City of Covington activities until corrected.

Participants, who feel justified to appeal any decision that pertains to the Athletic Code of Conduct, must abide by the decision at the time of enforcement. Participant(s) may submit, no later than 24 hours after the incident, a protest, in written form (email ok), to league coordinator.

By signing the team roster all players, coaches, and managers attest that they have read and understand this Athletic Code of Conduct. They further agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.

The City of Covington Parks and Recreation Department works hard to offer fun recreation sport leagues as a service and need for our community. We will not tolerate individuals or teams jeopardizing our commitment to this service.